

PMR 446 Service Introduced in the United Kingdom

DTI Press Release - 30 April 1999

The licence exemption regulations (SI 1999/930) authorising the PMR 446 service came into force on 19 April 1999. PMR 446 radios that meet the licence exemption regulations can now be used on a licence exempt basis throughout the United Kingdom.

PMR 446 is a handportable short range voice communication system, which provides a basic but effective radio service for both business and non business users. It is ideal for providing communication over short distances; such as within office buildings, factories and building sites.

Notes for Editors

1. The PMR 446 service has been introduced following the adoption by the European Radiocommunications Committee (ERC) of Decisions which comply member states to introduce the service. In introducing the PMR 446 service, the Radiocommunications Agency has fully complied with the ERC's Decisions.
2. There are eight 12.5 kHz simplex frequencies in the 446.0 - 446.1 MHz band, which have been harmonised (but not yet authorised) for use across Europe.
3. The frequencies are shared and are not suitable for safety of life use or for users who need to have access to frequencies at particular locations and times.
4. The PMR 446 service is unprotected and the Agency will not become involved in interference and/or channel sharing disputes between users.
5. PMR 446 radio equipment must be handportable, have an integral antenna, have a maximum ERP of 500 mW and be compliant with ETS 300 296.
6. A PMR 446 information sheet (RA 357) is available from:

The Information and Library Service
Radiocommunications Agency
New King's Beam House
22 Upper Ground
London SE1 9SA

E-mail: library.ra@gnet.gov.uk

7. For further information contact:

Graham Noyce
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[Top](#)

P/99/365